

**Patent Claims**

1. Method for controlling a drink preparation machine (1) for preparing a multiple number of different drink units on a hot-water basis, whereby the hot water for the multiple number of drink units is withdrawn from the same hot water source (8) and whereby the performance status of the hot water source (8) is monitored and the hot water withdrawal is controlled in such a way that the hot water withdrawal is released for all drink units at a predetermined full performance status (I), is blocked for all drink units at a predetermined zero performance status and, at a predetermined partial performance status (II), is blocked for certain drink units and released for other predetermined drink units.
2. Method according to Claim 1, characterized in that each performance status is limited by a threshold value (S), whereby the withdrawal of predetermined drink units is being blocked if this threshold value is fallen below.
3. Method according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the full performance status (I) is formed as a performance range.
4. Method according to one of the Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the partial performance status (II) comprises at least one performance range (II<sub>1</sub>, II<sub>2</sub>).
5. Method according to one of the Claims 1 to 4, characterized in that a performance withdrawal value is established for each drink unit, and that this performance withdrawal value is deducted from the current performance status with each withdrawal.
6. Method according to one of the Claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the hot water is heated up synchronously with the withdrawal.